IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No : 3747 Application Number : 09/427.775

Applicant : Jerry KIDD et al.

Filed : October 26, 1999

Title : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PLASMA PLATING

TC/Art Unit : 1762

Examiner: : Marianne L. Padgett

Docket No. : 88742.472005

: 21967 Customer No.

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This submission is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed September 7, 2006 indicating minor formatting errors. The amendment filed on June 23, 2006 in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed March 23, 2006 has been amended to address the items identified as being non-compliant. It should be noted, however, that the Examiner was incorrect in asserting that deletions of 5 or less words "requires" the use of double brackets. The rules specifically state that double brackets "may" be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(2)). Applicants object to this unnecessary delay in the prosecution of this application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 20 of this paper.